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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/034,318	12/26/2001	Michael Volovets	FS10077/US	8905

33072 7590 05/15/2003

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EXAMINER

FOX, JOHN C

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3753

DATE MAILED: 05/15/2003

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/034318

Applicant(s)

Examiner

Fox

Group Art Unit

3753

—The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet beneath the correspondence address—

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, such period shall, by default, expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Status

- ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12/26/2001
- ☐ This action is **FINAL**.
- ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 11-16 is/are rejected.
- ☒ Claim(s) 9-10 is/are objected to.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

- ☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.
- ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.
- ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d)

- ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- ☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been
- ☐ received.
- ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____
- ☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 1.7.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s) 2
- ☒ Notice of Reference(s) Cited, PTO-892
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152
- ☐ Other _____

Office Action Summary

Art Unit: 3753

This action is responsive to the communication filed
December 26, 2001.

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs
of 35 U.S.C. § 102 that form the basis for the rejections under
this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --
(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed
publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or
on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the
date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-8, 12, 15-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)
as being anticipated by Rockwell (US '176). Rockwell shows a
control valve with seats 81, 82, and passages on the outer
circumference for metering. At least part of passages A are
rectangular, passages B,C are triangular and have different
positions with respect to the seats, see Figure 11 in particular.
Rockwell includes a diaphragm 52 which delimits a fluid boundary.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. § 103 which forms
the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office
action:

A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not
identically disclosed or described as set forth in section
102 of this title, if the differences between the subject
matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that
the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the
time the invention was made to a person having ordinary
skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which
the invention was made.

Subject matter developed by another person, which qualifies
as prior art only under subsection (f) or (g) of section 102
of this title, shall not preclude patentability under this
section where the subject matter and the claimed invention
were, at the time the invention was made, owned by the same

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person or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same person.

Claims 11 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Rockwell in view of Pechoux et al (US '514). Rockwell shows the claimed valve except for the bellows. Pechoux et al show another metering valve with a solenoid actuator and a bellows 19 to seal the actuator. It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to have used such a solenoid and bellows with the metering valve of Rockwell to similarly provide for electric actuation of the valve. Bellows fairly responds to the recitation of "flexible sleeve".

Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Rockwell in view of Kingsford et al (US '416). Rockwell shows the claimed valve except for being a fluoropolymer. Kingsford et al teach that valves of fluoropolymer are known where a corrosive fluid is valved or high purity of the fluid must be maintained, see column 1, lines 18-31. It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to have made the Rockwell valve of a fluoropolymer to provide for using the valve thereof with corrosive or high purity fluids.

Claims 9-10 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

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The Prior Art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Examiner Fox at (703) 308-2595 or John.Fox@uspto.gov. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0861. The fax number for TC 3700 is 703-872-9302. For responses after final the fax number is 703-872-9303. The Supervisory Primary Examiner for Art Unit 3753 is Mikado Buiz who can be reached at (703) 308-2580 or at Michael.Buiz@uspto.gov.



JOHN FOX
PRIMARY EXAMINER
ART UNIT 3753

jcf
May 12, 2003